

Grade 4 Assessment: Writing a Persuasive Book Review

Learning objective: To evaluate a text and write a structured, persuasive book review using appropriate tone and vocabulary.

Read the text below carefully. Answer all questions in the spaces provided. Ensure your writing is clear and uses formal language where required.

In the latest adventure, 'The Forest of Whispering Leaves', Leo the lion travels deep into the ancient woodland to find the lost map of the stars. The author uses vivid imagery to describe the golden canopy, making the reader feel as though they are walking alongside Leo. While the middle chapters are a little slow, the dramatic climax at the Silver Waterfall is truly heart-racing. It is a wonderful story for anyone who enjoys mystery and brave heroes.

Word bank: captivating · persuasive · recommendation · plot · characterisation · atmosphere · climax · opinion

1. Identify one piece of evidence from the text that shows the reader enjoyed the setting. (2 marks)

2. What does the author of the review mean by the phrase 'the middle chapters are a little slow'? (2 marks)

3. Which genre does this book belong to? Provide a reason for your answer using the text. (3 marks)

4. If you were writing a book review, why is it important to include a summary of the plot without 'spoiling' the ending? (3 marks)

5. Look at the words 'captivating' and 'heart-racing'. Why has the reviewer chosen these specific adjectives instead of just saying the book was 'good'? (3 marks)

6. Imagine you have just finished reading a book about Nova the owl's trip to the moon. Write a short, persuasive paragraph (4-5 sentences) recommending this book to a friend. Use at least two words from the word bank. (5 marks)

7. If the hardback edition costs £12.99 and the paperback costs £7.50, how much money would you save by buying the paperback version? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a cover design for 'The Forest of Whispering Leaves' that highlights the mystery of the story.



Extension challenge: Write a 50-word blurb for a sequel to the story, explaining what challenge Leo might face next. Total: /25